

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, December 18, 2012, 7 pm

**Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman Carmen Vance, Selectman Richard Szegda, Selectman Rob Hellstrom, Selectman Bob Bogue

Also Present: Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz and others.

CALL TO ORDER: C. Vance called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. A moment of silence was held for the families and victims of the tragic shooting in Newtown on Friday, December 14, 2012.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **MINUTES:** 12/4/12 Regular BOS Meeting: R. Szegda MOVED to approve the 11/20/12 Regular Meeting Minutes. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
3. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** Pamela Viens of 132 Route 66 North feels that Columbia has many qualified builders and would like to see them involved with the proposed library expansion project. She feels that the BOS should seek input from the town's people versus only seeking design plans, etc. from an architect. P. Viens feels there should be discussion, perhaps a Town Meeting, prior to spending an additional \$8,500 for the re-design plans. R. Szegda explained that seeking input from local builders has previously been suggested and discussed. P. Viens stated that she feels the town should look into hiring a local builder because they would be more conscious about saving money for the town than a hired architect. Steve Everett of 534 Route 87 East suggested P. Viens speak to local builders and request their involvement in the process. Discussion followed. C. Vance stated that she will suggest that the building committee invite local builders to a meeting to gather their input, suggestions, etc. C. Vance also stated that an architect is needed for this project regardless. Jeff Viens of 132 Route 66 would like to see a referendum held to give town's people the opportunity to express their thoughts on what the cost for this project should be prior to spending the additional \$8,500 on the re-design submitted by the architect. C. Vance stated that holding a referendum would cost about \$4,000. R. Szegda stated that he welcomes input from the town's people but pointed out that a Library Building Committee exists to serve a purpose and he would like to hear their thoughts on this. Discussion followed.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - 4.1 **Disc Golf Request:** J. Luiz explained that the idea for a Disc Golf Course was brought to the BOS by the Rec Commission and that the Rec Commission proposed to construct a course at Rec Park. J. Luiz explained that the Rec Commission has requested to spend \$250 from the David Bell Bequest on the services of Brian Giggey of Explore Disc Golf. J. Luiz stated that the consultation would entail 8 hours of Mr. Giggey's time in which he would come to Columbia, tour the Rec area and then meet with the Rec Commission to discuss the suitability of the Rec area for installation of a Disc Golf Course. Discussion followed. R. Hellstrom expressed concern with spending \$250 and then finding out that Rec Park is not suitable for the course. R. Szegda feels that course is a great idea but is hesitant to construct it at Rec Park due to the other activity that currently takes place there. A. Dunnack explained that these types of courses are normally set up in the middle of a lot of activity to make it more fun. S. Everett feels that Disc Golf is a great sport if the appropriate space

is available, but that Rec Park may not be the best place to construct the course. Discussion followed. This ITEM has been TABLED.

- 4.3 Establishment of town meeting to approve RPIP Grant Application:** R. Szegda MOVED to establish a Special Town Meeting on January 8, 2013 at 6:45 p.m. in the Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room for the purpose of endorsing the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposal referenced in Section 5 of Public Act 11-61 (An Act Concerning Responsible Growth) for the following project to be submitted by the Town of Bolton, Coventry, Andover and Columbia: “Shared Economic Development Services Proposal for the Route 6 Regional Economic Development Council Consisting of the Towns of Bolton, Coventry, Andover and Columbia.” MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
- 4.4 School Roof Replacement:** J. Luiz reviewed a summary of fee proposals provided by four architects. He explained that the School Roof Replacement Committee is still reviewing proposals and that he should have more information available at the next BOS meeting.
- 5. NEW BUSINESS:** None.
- 6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH**
- 6.1 Application for Constructing Structures on or over the Lake by J. & A. Cobb:** Dick MOVED to approve the application of J. and A. Cobb contingent upon the recommendations provided by the Lake Management Advisory Committee. (LMAC) MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
- 6.2 Application for Constructing Structures on or over the Lake by the Desrosiers:** This ITEM has been TABLED.
- 6.3 Application for Constructing Structures on or over the Lake by the Desrosiers:** This ITEM has been TABLED.
- 6.4 Memo from Mark Coleman and memo from M. Roczinak regarding Dip N’ Dash:** C. Vance explained that LMAC does not support the “Dip N Dash” proposal for a number of reasons.
- 6.5 Memo from Mark Coleman regarding LMAC Officers**
- 7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS**
- 7.1 Library Committee Members:** C. Vance MOVED to appoint the following individuals to the Library Committee: Noreen Steele (D), Art Austin (D), Meredith Petersons (U), Felicia Vezina (R), Gary Littlefield (R), Jenn Bright (D), Su Epstein (U), Edith Prague (D). MOTION CARRIED 4:0:1 with B. Bogue abstaining.
- 7.2 Resignation Pam Missal (R) from FiPAC.**
- 7.3 Appointment of Steve Everett (R) to FiPAC:** B. O’Brien MOVED to appoint S. Everett to FiPAC. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
- 7.4 Appointment of Steve Harrington (R) to LMAC:** C. Vance MOVED to appoint S. Harrington to LMAC. MOTION CARRIED 5:0.
- 7.5 Resignation of Sue Catullo from the Youth Services Committee**
- 8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** J. Luiz stated that he is still working to have the school district join the CT partnership program to help save the municipal government and school district thousands of dollars. He, Judy Ortiz and Ernie Sharpe, have been creating draft financial reporting forms that would be submitted to FiPAC by the school district. The forms’ intent is to improve communication between FiPAC and the BOE. J. Luiz met with the Lebanon and Coventry town leaders to discuss possible renovations to shared bridges. J. Luiz stated that the audit is almost complete and that the preliminary figures show better than expected numbers in terms of revenues and expenditures. He is

working together with the Rec Director and Rec Commission so that the Rec Commission has a better understanding of the town's expectations of the Rec Director and the budget/time allotments given to the Rec Department.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

10. BUDGET:

10.1 REFUNDS: C. Vance MOVED to approve the following refunds:

To	From	Amount
CAB EAST LLC	Town of Columbia	\$341.55
Jeanne Saunders	Town of Columbia	\$17.12
Gretchen Pokorny	Town of Columbia	\$6.91
Gretchen Pokorny	Town of Columbia	\$11.57

MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

10.2 TRANSFERS: None

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: C. Vance MOVED to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$40,741.00.

12. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: R. Szegda stated that AHM has been very involved with Porter School providing support regarding the tragedy in Newtown. C. Vance stated that there was a community candlelight vigil Monday evening on the Green organized by Brian Keldsen, Sr. Pastor from the Columbia Baptist Church and that it was very nice.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

13.1 Real estate pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel pursuant to CT State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A); C. Vance MOVED to enter into Executive Session with J. Luiz, A. Dunnack, Shirley King, Joan Hill, Chris Tolsdorf and Paul Ramsey present to discuss real estate. Executive Session began at 8:30 p.m. At 8:50 pm, Shirley King, Joan Hill and Paul Ramsey exited Executive Session. At 9:00 pm, A. Dunnack and C. Tolsdorf exited Executive Session. Executive Session ended at 9:02 pm.

4. OLD BUSINESS (continued)

4.1 Disc Golf Request: The BOS were in agreement to not hire Brian Giggey Explore Disc Gulf. This issue will be revisited once the town purchases new land for recreation purposes.

14. ADJOURNMENT: C. Vance MOVED to adjourn at 9:04 pm and the MOTION CARRIED 5:0.

Respectfully submitted by Kimberly Bona